

# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

# 31 MARCH 2024: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (Year B (II); Psalter: Week 1)

## **Mass Readings**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 Resp. Psalm 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Colossians: 3: 1-4 Gospel of The Passion: John 20: 1-9

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 31 March	EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (pp. 362 ff.) Special Collection: Holy Places	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 2 April	Easter Tuesday	Sacrament of Confession	6.15 pm
	Mass Intention: George Alexander MacLennan, RIP	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	6.45 pm
	(Anniversary: 29 March)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	7.30 pm
Thursday 4 April	Easter Thursday	Sacrament of Confession	6.15 pm
	Mass Intention: Marian Ellis, RIP	Stations of the Cross	6.45 pm
	(Recently Departed)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	7.30 pm
Saturday 6 April	Easter Saturday	Sacrament of Confession	8.15 am
	Mass Intention: Nicholas	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	8.45 am
	(Health and Intentions)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am
Sunday 7 April	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER		
	(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) (pp. 424 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am

#### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection: New Morning

The tomb was empty. In the early morning darkness of that first Easter, there was only confusion for Mary Magdalene and the other disciples. But as the daylight spread, they saw the dawning of a new creation. At first they didn't understand the Scripture, today's Gospel tells us. We don't know which precise Scripture texts they were supposed to understand. Perhaps it was the sign of Jonah, who rose from the belly of the great fish after three days (see Jonah 1:17). Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile (see Hosea 6:2). Perhaps it was the psalmist who rejoiced that God had not abandoned him to the netherworld (see Psalm 16:9–10). Whichever Scripture it was, as the disciples bent down into the tomb, they saw and they believed. What did they see?

Burial shrouds in an empty tomb. The stone removed from the tomb. Seven times in nine verses we hear that word—"tomb." What did they believe? That God had done what Jesus said He would do—raised Him up on the third day (see Mark 9:31; 10:34).

What they saw and believed they bore witness to, as today's First Reading tells us. Peter's speech is a summary of the gospels—from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan t His hanging on a tree (see Deuteronomy 21:22–23), to His rising from the dead. We are children of the apostles, born into the new world of their witness. Our lives are now "hidden with Christ in God," as today's Epistle says. Like them, we gather in the morning on the first day of the week —to celebrate the Eucharist, the feast of the empty tomb. We rejoice that the stones have been rolled away from our tombs, too. Each of us can shout, as we do in today's Psalm: "I shall not die, but live." They saw and believed. And we await the day they promised would come—when we, too, "will appear with Him in glory." (Scott Hahn)

### **Thought for the Day with Pope Francis**

John and Peter hastened to the tomb. The Gospel said that John "believed". Peter also "believed", but in his own way; with his faith somewhat clouded by regret for having denied the Lord. The surprising announcement, the running, the hastening and the question: And what do I do on this Easter Day? What do you do? (Homily, Easter Sunday, 1 April 2018)

#### **PARISH NEWS**

Today's Liturgy: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection, Year B (pp. 362 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
 p. 559: Preface I of Easter
 p. 362: Readings & Proper Prayers
 p. 591: Eucharistic Prayer I
 p. 543: The Apostles' Creed
 p. 631: Communion Rite

HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL! Wishing you every joy and blessing on this most joyous of days. Thank you for your support to me and to the parish throughout the year, and for your patience and understanding. With prayers, Fr. Domenico.

Clocks Change: 'Spring Forward'!! Please note that we should change our clocks on Sunday 31 March, putting them FORWARD one hour. This means that we have one less hour in bed, so make sure you get a good night's sleep for Easter Sunday Mass!

Piety Stall – Looking for cards and gifts for the Easter Season, or for the Sacrament of Confirmation? We have a wide range for sale at our Piety Stall! We also have cards and gifts to celebrate First Holy Communion – please ask Helen Macdonald.

**Highland Foodbank: items needed for March/April 2024** – 1 kg bags of rice, microwave packs of rice, tins of custard, cartons of long-life juice, UHT milk, tins of ham/corned beef, tins of macaroni cheese, washing-up liquid, cat food. All items can be placed in the box at the piety stall.

Tuesday 21 May – Thursday 23 May: Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures – these will take place in St. Scholastica's Guesthouse, at Pluscarden Abbey. This year's lecturer will be Dr Linden Bicket from the Edinburgh University School of Divinity. She will give four lectures on the theme of Scottish Catholic Literature and the 'transfiguration of the commonplace'. The talks are as follows:

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3.00pm: Faithful Fictions: what is Catholic Literature?;

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 10.30am: George and Ann Scott-Moncrieff; Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 3.00pm: George Friel and Muriel Spark;

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 10.30am: George Mackay Brown.

There is no charge for these lectures and all are welcome to attend. To register for the talks, make further enquiries, or book accommodation, please write to: Pentecost Lectures, Pluscarden Abbey, ELGIN, Moray IV30 8UA enclosing SAE; or email guestmaster@pluscardenabbey.org

A Pilgrimage with the Northern Saints, 25-31 August 2024 – A pilgrimage to northern England is being organised for the end of August, leaving from St. Mary's, Inverness. The trip, for up to twenty people, will include visits to the shrines of Blessed Dominic Barberi (St Helens); St. Margaret Clitherow (York) and St. Aidan (Lindisfarne) on their patronal feasts; plus excursions to St. Winefride's shrine in North Wales; Durham Cathedral, Ushaw (former seminary); as well as time in Chester, Manchester, Liverpool and Skipton. In order to minimise the expense, it is hoped that four or five cars could be taken, and the cost of the fuel divided. The approximate overall cost for six nights (25-31 August) bed and breakfast accommodation in mostly religious retreat centres (some sharing in twin rooms may be necessary) plus fuel will be around £600. Lunch, dinner and other expenses are not included. Anyone interested should contact the office at St Mary's, Inverness, on 01463 233519.

**90 Club: Next Draw on Sunday 28 April!** Anyone who has yet to pay their dues: please see Amanda MacNeil. If you would like to try your luck, it only costs £2 monthly, and you could win one of 3 prizes.

Our LAST Prize Bingo will take place Friday 26 April – Doors open: 6.30pm; eyes down: 7.00pm. Items to give as prizes are will be gratefully received; thank you for your support. There is a box in the entrance foyer, under the Piety Stall, in which you can place your donations. \*\* Please note that this will be our LAST Bingo evening at St. Columba's. Our sincere thanks go to Don Williams for his selfless efforts in organising and hosting the evenings. Over the course of some twenty years, he has raised almost £55,000 for the parish. This is an incredible sum, and it was instrumental in helping to pay back some of the Parish Building Fund loan to the Diocese. Many thanks, Don, for your wonderful support to the Parish and to the local community.

#### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Kathleen Macpherson, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant, Patrick O'Donnell, Walter Grant

**R.I.P:** Czesław Mojścik, Ann Mackinnon, Joanne Macmillan, John Angus O'Henley, Margaret MacDonald, Esther Smith **Anniversaries:** Kathleen Tierney, Deacon Jacques Cook, Mary Bell, Edward Lafferty, Sam Reilly, Derek Reid, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother